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*LIMITED TO MATTERS
AND PROCEEDINGS BEFORE
FEDERAL COURTS & AGENCIES
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January 10, 2002

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/631,638; Filed: August 2, 2000
For: **Process for the Recovery of Organic Acids**
Inventors: Moore *et al.*
Our Ref: 1533.0980001/SRL/PAJ

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement and Preliminary Amendment; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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Art Unit 1651

Commissioner for Patents

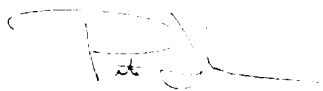
January 10, 2002

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

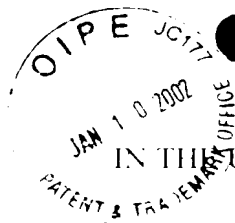


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Enclosures

P: USERS KSACRE PAJackman 1533 0980001 CvrLtr



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Moore and Sanborn

Appl. No. 09 631,638

Filed: August 2, 2000

For: **Process for the Recovery of Organic Acids**

Confirmation No.: 8662

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Naff, D.

Atty. Docket: 1533.0980001 SRL PAJ

**Reply to Restriction Requirement and
Preliminary Amendment**

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Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 10, 2001 (Prosecution History Paper No. 7), requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1-31. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

In advance of substantive examination, Applicants also submit the following Preliminary Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

1. A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
 2. Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37
- C.F.R. § 1.115 and M.P.E.P. § 714; and